



San Diego City Attorney **CASEY GWINN**

MEDIA RELEASE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE: Wednesday, September 5, 2001

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CRANE COMPANY PAYS \$461,657 FOR I-8 OVERPASS REPAIR

San Diego, CA (September 5, 2001) — Anthony Crane Rental, L.P. paid \$461,657 in restitution for damage caused to an Interstate 8 overpass as a result of a criminal case filed by the San Diego City Attorney's Consumer and Environmental Protection Unit and settled in San Diego Superior Court today.

The criminal case alleged that Anthony Crane Rental, L.P., doing business as Maxim Crane, Leonard Francis Putt, and Jon Patrick Senecal violated the terms and conditions of a special permit issued by the California Department of Transportation (CALTRANS) to transport a crane to San Diego on August 15, 2000. The truck transporting the crane to San Diego took an alternate route and driving southbound on Freeway 163 struck the Interstate 8 overpass. Freeway and overpass lanes were closed for several hours due to the collision. Work to repair the overpass began that night and was completed on March 31, 2001.

Leonard Francis Putt, the driver of the truck pulling the crane, and Jon Patrick Senecal, a dispatcher for Anthony Crane Rental, L.P., pleaded no contest to violating the terms and conditions of the special permit by allowing the crane to be driven off the permitted route. On June 7, 2001, each was ordered to pay a \$500 fine, \$100 restitution fine, and serve three years probation. In addition, they were ordered to pay restitution to CALTRANS for damages to the overpass. Their employer, Anthony Crane Rental, L.P., agreed to pay for the

(more)



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Page 2

damages and to establish written procedures for drivers and dispatchers to follow when transporting cranes on California freeways. Today, the criminal charges against Anthony Crane Rental, L.P. were dismissed.

City Attorney Casey Gwinn said, “This collision caused major damage to the freeway, and we’re fortunate that no one was hurt. This case serves to remind everyone transporting oversized loads on California freeways that they must get their CALTRANS permits and follow the permitted routes. Companies and their employees that violate CALTRANS transportation permits are going to be held accountable to pay for the damages they cause.”

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